**Purchasing the Cotton by CCI**

1861. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state whether it is a fact that CCI was directed to lift 30,000 bales of cotton from Guntur and Prakasam Districts of Andhra Pradesh to be exported to Bangladesh and Nepal if so, how much cotton has been purchased from the cotton growers by CCI after this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): In the wake of representations received from ecertain parts of the country, including Andhra Pradesh, regarding stocks of cotton with the farmers, Government has authorised the Cotton Corporation of India to meet the requirements of some of our neighbouring countries like Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, in the context of Bilateral Trade Agreement, upto 30,000 bales. The CCI has not so far been able to buy any cotton from Guntur and Prakasam Districts of Andhra Pradesh as the prices demanded by the farmers of these areas are not commercially viable for export to these countries.

**Textile Mill facing closure in Rajasthan**

1862. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the textile mills in Rajasthan which produce 45 per cent of the country's synthetic yarn are facing closure on account of non-availability of V.S.F. (Viscose Staple Fibre);

(b) whether the Rajasthan Textile Mills Association had demand for import of 10,000 tonnes of VSF; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to recetify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) There have been some representations from Textile Industry including textile mills in Rajasthan about shor-supply of V.S.F.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The main reason for shortfall VSF supplies was closure of one of major manufacturing units of VSF account of non-availability of adequ quantities of water required by the u However, the unit is now reported have resumed normal production. Con quently, the availability of VSF is pected to improve in the next few da A close watch is being kept on the sit tion.

**पानीपत हथकरघा उद्योग के सम्मुख संक**

1863. **श्री विनोद शर्मा** : क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 1 जुलाई, 1992 के "इकॉनामिक टाइम्स" मे "पानीपत हैण्डलूम यूनिट्स हिट बाई स्क्रैम' शीर्षक से छपे समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि पानीपत के हथकरघा एकक गम्भीर आर्थिक संकट का सामना कर रहे हैं और वे बंद होने के कगार पर हैं ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि लगभग 40,000 व्यक्ति इस उद्योग में कार्यरत हैं ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस उद्योग को संकट से उबारने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या तात्कालिक उपाय किए जा रहे हैं ?

**वस्त्र मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अशोक गहलोत)** : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) केंद्र सरकार को ऐसी कोई रिपोर्ट प्राप्त नहीं हुई है ।

(ग) वर्ष 1987–88 में की गई राष्ट्रीय हथकरघा गणना के अनुसार पानीपत हथकरघा उद्योग में बुनाई और आरंभिक कार्यकलापों दोनों में 13,125 लोग कार्यरत हैं । तथापि इसमें शॉडी यार्न तैयार करने वाली ईकाइयों और मदों के संसाधन में अर्जित रोजगार के आंकड़े शामिल नहीं हैं ।